

**MINUTES OF THE  
HEALTH SYSTEM REFORM TASK FORCE**

Tuesday, December 16, 2008 – 8:00 a.m. – Room C250 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. Sheldon L. Killpack, Senate Chair  
Rep. David Clark, House Chair  
Sen. Gregory S. Bell  
Sen. Gene Davis  
Rep. Roger E. Barrus  
Rep. Jackie Biskupski  
Rep. Bradley M. Daw  
Sen. Peter C. Knudson  
Rep. David Litvack  
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold  
Rep. Patrick Painter

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Mark D. Andrews, Policy Analyst  
Ms. Catherine J. Dupont, Associate General Counsel  
Mr. John T. Nielsen, Advisor to the Governor on  
Health System Reform  
Ms. Amanda K. Majers, Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Task Force Business**

Chair Killpack called the meeting to order at 8:22 a.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Clark moved to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2008 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Newbold absent for the vote.

**2. Report on Efforts to Coordinate Statewide Demonstration Projects for Health Care Delivery and Payment Reform**

Mr. Marc Bennett, CEO, Health Insight, spoke about creating greater alignment in health care information.

Ms. Kim Wirthlin, University Health Care, spoke about medical school cuts due to budget shortfalls.

Mr. Bennett and Ms. Wirthlin answered questions from the Task Force.

**3. Authentic Charity Care**

Mr. Paul Mero, President, Sutherland Institute, distributed and discussed "Caring for Our Neighbors in Need and Strengthening Community in Utah." He recommended a coordinated private-sector approach to authentic charity health care through statewide charity clinics and regional surgical centers.

Mr. Mero answered questions from the Task Force.

**4. Utah Oral Health Coalition**

Dr. Craig Olson, Utah Oral Health Coalition and Dr. Steven Steed, Utah Department of Health gave a presentation entitled "Oral Health Care: Essential To Health Care Reform."

Dr. Olson and Dr. Steed answered questions from the Task Force.

## **5. Review of Draft Legislation**

Rep. Clark reviewed his goals for the Task Force to achieve.

Ms. Dupont distributed and discussed 2009 General Session draft legislation, "Health System Reform - Insurance Market."

Task Force discussion followed.

Mr. Reed Taft Jacobs, citizen, spoke in favor of the draft legislation and discussed the draft legislation from a systems engineer perspective.

Ms. Elizabeth Garbe, Utah Health Policy Project, spoke in favor of the draft legislation and offered recommendations concerning it.

Ms. Annette Herman, citizen, spoke in favor of the draft legislation.

Mr. Roger Adams, citizen, asked if the plan in the draft legislation covers dental care.

Mr. Nielsen answered that insurers are required to offer dental preventative care in the draft legislation.

Ms. Dupont distributed and discussed 2009 General Session draft legislation, "Health Reform - Administrative Simplification."

Ms. Dupont distributed and discussed 2009 General Session draft legislation, "Health Reform - Health Insurance Coverage in State Contracts."

Task Force discussion followed.

Mr. Dave Gessel, Utah Hospital and Health Systems Association, spoke in favor of the draft legislation.

Chair Killpack stated that further public comment about the draft legislation could be given during the general session.

Rep. Litvack recommended reconvening the committee before the general session.

Mr. Chet Loftus, Regence Blue Cross Blue Shield, spoke in favor of the draft legislation and offered recommendations concerning it.

Dr. Craig Olson, dentist, spoke about coordination of benefits in relation to the draft legislation.

## **6. Other Business**

Chair Killpack and Rep. Clark gave closing remarks.

**7. Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Sen. Knudson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Newbold absent for the vote.

Chair Killpack adjourned the meeting at 11:04 a.m.